

Lesson Plan for Maus Novel

Study Unit Lesson 2

1 **Lesson Title:** Types of Literary Conflict

2 **Grade/Age Level:**

Grades 7-9

3 **Subject Area:**

Language Arts and History (cross-curricular)

4 **Time allotted for the lesson:** One 150 min. class period and another 20 min. at a later time to debrief and review the content

5 **Short description of lesson:**

In this lesson, the learners learn about the four main types of conflict found in literature. They learn how authors use conflict as the driving force of the plot. Students are introduced to the four basic types of conflict in this lesson: man vs. man, man vs. nature, man vs. society, and man vs. himself. After learning about these types of conflict, students are asked to complete a worksheet reviewing the content. The lesson ends with students using their newfound knowledge of conflict to locate three examples from our text, *Maus: A Survivor's Tale*.

6 **Standards met in this lesson:** Happy Kids Middle School Program does not follow any state or national standards. Instead, it has its own set of benchmarks set for its students. Below are those that are covered by this lesson.

- Identifies and describes a variety of literary elements such as plot, setting, characters, problem, solution, and conflict in a story
- Can read and understand grade-level appropriate material
- Identifies and retells the main ideas and details of reading selections
- Uses correct capitalization, punctuation, and grammar

7 **Instructional Objectives (Each instructional objective [learning outcome] for this lesson):**

- Students will identify examples of conflict in literature.
- Students will classify literary conflict into the four basic types of literary conflict.
- Students will correctly identify the four types of conflict in literature and locate examples of each from a literary work.

8 Instructional Procedures

- **Lesson Set:** Begin this lesson in large group by asking students the meaning of the word “conflict”. They should reply with responses like “fighting” or “arguing”. Next prompt students to think about how many different kinds of conflict there are. Write their responses on the board and see if they can classify them in small groups. Discuss small group findings. Next, inform the class that they will be learning about four types of conflict we commonly see in literature.
- **Techniques and activities:**
 - 1 Students work in pairs and go to the [Types of Literary Conflict](#) page of the unit website and read the information.
 - 2 Students then proceed to the [assignment page](#) for the lesson, follow the instructions, and download the worksheet.
 - 3 On their computers, students should, using their books, complete the worksheet (in pairs or individually).
 - 4 When finished, students should then upload their completed work to the [assignment drop box folder here](#).
 - 5 They may proceed to [Lesson 3](#) if they have all other work completed.
- **Lesson Closure:** After all students have finished and uploaded their worksheets, the teacher should mark each document and provide feedback for mistakes. Worksheets are then returned, and a large group review of the concept is facilitated by the teacher where students take turns sharing examples of conflict they found in the book and why they classified it the way they did.

9 **Adaptations for special learners:** Students in the Happy Kids Middle School Program are all ESL students. To accommodate their language ability, all lesson materials and content will be made available online via the unit website. This website will include links to tools like translation services English dictionaries to help students through the content.

10 **Supplemental Activities:** A possible extension activity for this lesson is to have students, in small groups, create their visual representations of the four types of literary conflict learned in this lesson. They can use the [teacher’s example](#) to guide their efforts. Upon completion, students can present these to the class explaining why they think their creations do a good job representing the types of conflict.

11 **Assessment/Evaluation:** During this lesson, students will be assessed based on their performance on the [Conflict in Literature](#) worksheet that they are instructed to complete after perusing the content on the website. This worksheet will be submitted electronically to the teacher and graded. Happy Kids does not give grades to students. All assessment is informal. Therefore, the teacher will be required to mark each worksheet and return it to the student with feedback explaining why her responses were incorrect. The teacher should also, following the marking of a student’s worksheet,

record in the Teacher's Observation Book whether the student has or has not demonstrated an understanding or mastery of the concepts covered in this lesson. The worksheet is worth 40 pts. A student should score over 30 pts. to demonstrate proficiency in the concept. Students scoring below this mark should be required to go back, revise their responses, and resubmit the worksheet.

12 **Learner Products:** Unless the extension activity is assigned, the only artifact students will complete for this lesson will be Conflict in Literature worksheet.

** Note for learners: This lesson plan template is adapted from the model that is recommended in the book *Preparing to Use Technology: A Practical Guide for Technology Integration*.*